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(1058)

CONFIDENTIAL EXCISE

Saigon 5647 9-11-67

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ACTION EA 19

INFO NSCE 00,CIAE 00,SSO 00,DODE 00,USIE 00,NSAE 00,CCO 00,SP 02,
SS 35,GPM 03,SC 01,NSC 10,RSC 01,SAL 01,SAH 03,L 03,H 02,P 04,
INR 07,AID 30,RSR 01,EUR 25,IO 21,/168 W

P R 111130Z SEP 67
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6601
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 4202
CINCPAC
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 2494
AMCONSUL DANANG 938

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 SAIGON 5647

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF: A) SAIGON A-174, SEPT 24, 1966
B) SAIGON A-162
C) SAIGON 5128
D) STATE 33868

SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC DATA ON SENATORS-ELECT

1. AS REQUESTED REF D THIS MESSAGE TRANSMITS ADDITIONAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA ON PROBABLE SENATORS-ELECT DRAWN FROM FILES

(1)

PAGE 2 RUMJIR 5647/1 C O N F I D E N T I A L
AT THE EMBASSY AND OTHER SOURCES. INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN THE BIOGRAPHIC REGISTER (BR), REF A AND REF B IS NOT REPEATED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR CONFIDENTIAL
REVIEWED BY Jean Pierce DATE 12/4/81
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

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2. WHERE WE KNOW IT, EACH INDIVIDUALS RELIGIOUS AFFIL"ATION IS NOTED. WE CAN NOW IDENTIFY 21 CATHOLICS, 10 BUDDHISTS, 6 HOA HAO, 3 CAO DAI AND 1 ANIMIST. THE RELIGIOUS AFFILITATIONS FO THE REMAINING 15 SENATORS-ELECT ARE UNCERTAIN OR UNKNOWN. THERE MIGHT BE ONE OR MORE ADDITIONAL CATHOLICS IN THE "UNKNOWN" CATEGORY, BUT NEITHER EMBASSY NOR [redacted] ABLE TO IDENTIFY AT THIS TIME. THUS WE FAIRLY SURE TOTAL NUMBER OF CATHOLICS DES NOT MUCH EXCEED 22.

3. LIST 8

A) NGUYEN GIA HIEN: CATHOLIC. SECRETARY GENERAL OF MINISCULE UNION OF TECHNICIANS OF ENTERPRISE IN VIETNAM. A LEADER IN SPRING 1967 OF "STRUGGLE COMMITTEE FOR A JUST PEACE" WHICH ORGANIZED DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST A FALSE PEACE IN REACTION TO CALL FOR PEACE IN VIETNAM ISSUED BY BELGIAN CARDINAL CARDIJN. SEE BR.

B) PHAN VAN TRIEN: CATHOLIC. AN TENTREPENEUR ACTIVE

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IN BUSINESS CIRCLES - THE SAIGON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, THE CONFEDERATION OF INDUSTRIES AND CRAFTS, THE JAPAN-VIETNAM FRENDSHIP ASSOCIATION, ETC.

D) LE VAN DONG: BUDDHIST. UNIVERSITY OF HANOI GRADUATE, PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS. 1954 CHEF DE CABINET MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND LABOR, 1955-58 CHEF DE CABINET MINISTRY OF LABOR, 1958-61 MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE.

E) TRAN VAN QUA: CATHOLIC, NOTHING ADDITIONAL.

G) BUI VAN GIAI: CATHOLIC, SEE REF A.

H) NGUYEN HUU TIEN: BUDDHIST, 1927-1949 JUDGE IN HANOI COURT OF JUSTICE, 1952-54 MAYOR OF HANOI, 1954 CAME TO SOUTH, 1955 WORKED IN COMMISSARIAT OF REFUGEES IN SAIGON.

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ed

J) TRAN NGOC NHUAN: CATHOLIC, ARVN MAJOR, 1962-66 [redacted] 1947 AIDE TO GEN NGUYEN NGOC LOAN AT MSS.

4. LIST 10

A) PHAN BA CAM AKA VUONG KIM: HOA HAO, NOTHING ADDITIONAL.

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B) DUONG VAN THUAN AKA XUAN TUNG: RELIGION UNKNOWN, SEE BR.

C) NGUYEN QUOC XUNG AKA DO LONG: RELIGION UNKNOWN, 1953-54 ACTIVE IN FRENCH-SUPPORTED NATIONAL UNION MOVEMENT IN NORTH VIETNAM.

D) TRAN THAI HO AKA LE VINH: RELIGION UNKNOWN, SEE BR.

E) TRUONG VAN CU AKA TRUONG KIM CU: HOA HAO, SEE BR.

F) TRAN DUY DON: HOA HAO, SEE BR.

G) LE VAN TAM: RELIGION UNKNOWN, NOTHING ADDITIONAL.

H) VU HUY TAN: HOA HAO, MINOR OPPOSITION POLITICIAN UNDER DIEM.

I) NGUYEN DINH PHUONG: OUR BIO FILES LIST HIM AS RXATHOLIC, HOWEVER, [redacted] HAS NO INFO HE IS CATHOLIC AND WE INCLUNED TO DOUBT OUR PREVIOUS INFO. NOTHING ADDITIOONAL.

J) TA CHUONG PHUONG: RELIGION UNKNOWN, NOTHING ADDITIONAL.

5. LIST 13

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b-1
2d

A: TRAN VAN DON; BUDDHIST; SEE BR.
B: TON THAT DINH; BUDDHISTS; SEE BR;

C: TRAN DIEN; LISTED AS CATHOLIC[illegible]

PAGE 5 RUMJIR 5647/1 C O N F I D E N T I A L
BELIEVE OUR PREVIOUS LISTING OF HIM AS BUDDHIST WAS
ERRONEOUS.

D: PHAM VAN TAM AKA THAI LANG NGHIEP; RELIGION UNKNOWN.
MINOR WRITER AND PUBLICISTS, LONG TIME ASSOCIATE OF NGO DINH
NHU, JAILED BRIEFLY AFTER NOVEMBER 19 [illegible] COUP. ONE OF
BETTER KNOWN LEADERS OF MINOR DAI VIET QUOC DAN PARTY.
FOR PST THREE YEARS, TAM HAS UNSUCCESSFULLY TRIED TO
UNITE PARTYS FACTIONS. REPORTEDLY WAS INVOLVED IN QUI DAN
ZERTY ACTIVITIS AT VUNG TAU NATIONAL TRAINING CENEER DURING
1966.

E: HONG SON DONGG CAO DAI; NOTHING ADDITIONAL.

F: PHAM NAN TRUONG; CATHOLIC, NOTHING ADDITIONAL.

G: TRINH QUANG QUY; RELIGION UNKNOWN, AN ENTREPENEUR
IN NORTH VIETNAM WHO FLED SOUTH LEAVING HIS WEALTH BEHIND;
RECEIVED PART OF HIS EDUCATION IN U. S. A CLOSE ASSOCIATE
OF CVT LEADER TRAN NGOC BUU, QUY HAS HELD VARIOUS JOBS IN
THE CVT DURING MORE THAN 10 YEARS.

H: LE VAN THINH; HOA HAO, GRADUATE OF DALAT MILITARY
CADET SHCOOL AT CAI VON; BUNKER

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ACTION EA-19

INFO NSCE-00 CIAE-00 SSO-00 DODE-00 USIE-00 NSAE-00 CCO-00 SP-02
SS-35 GPM-03 SC-01 NSC-10 RSC-01 SAL-01 SAH-03 L-03 H-02 P-04
INR-07 RSR-01 AID-30 EUR-25 IO-21 /168 W

P R 111130Z SEP 67
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6602
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 4203
CINCPAC
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 2495
AMCONSUL DANANG 939

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 SAIGON 5647

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

I) KSOR ROT: ANIMIST, AN NCO IN ARVN OR RF WHO DEFECTED TO JOIN FULRO IN 1964. A FULRO-NOMINATED CA CANDIDATE WHO WON PHU BONS MONTAGNARD SEAT. DESPITE HAVING ONLY A PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION, ROT WAS MOST ABLE AND OUTSPOKEN OF MONTAGNARD CA DEPUTIES. SEE REF A.

J) DANG VANHO
NG: BUDDHIST, SEE BR AND REF A.

6. LIST 2) - ACCORDING TO AN RDV SOURCE ALL MEN ON THIS LIST ARE RDV MEMBERS.

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A) NGUYEN NGOC KY: CAO DAI, SON OF NGUYEN NGOC TUONG FOUNDER OF THE BEN TRE SECT OF THE CAO DAI RELIGION. AN UNSUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE FOR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY FROM KIEN HOA PROVINCE IN 1966.

B) TRAN THE MINH: RELIGION UNKNOWN, UNSUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE FOR 1962 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, ELECTED TO SAIGON CITY COUNCIL IN 1965 BUT WAS NOT ALLOWED TO SERVE FOR SOME UNKNOWN REASONS. SEE REF A.

C) HOANG XUAN TUU: LISTED AS NON-PRACTICING CATHOLIC IN REF B. APOSTOLIC DELEGATE DOES NOT LIST HIM AS CATHOLIC. BELIEVE HE SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED CATHOLIC AT THIS TIME.

D) PHAM NAM SACH: RELIGION UNKNOWN, LAWYER, JUDGE IN TAY NINH COURT.

E) NGUYEN VAN KY - CUONG: RELIGION UNKNOWN, NOTHING ADDITIONAL.

F) NGUYEN VAN HGAI: BUDDHIST, LEADER OF GREATER PEOPLES BLOC IN ASSEMBLY (WHICH INCLUDED RDV DEPUTIES PLUS OME MILITARY DEPUTIES, MONTAGNARDS, AND NON-PARTY DEPUTIES FROM CENTRAL VIETNAM: BLOC WAS REDUCED BY HALF IN EARLY

PAGE 3 RUMJIR 5647/2 C O N F I D E N T I A L
1967 WHEN MILITARY AND MOST MONTAGNARD DEPUTIES BROKE AWAY, APPARENTLY BECAUSE OF NGAI'S UNFAVORABLE ATTITUDE TOWARD ROLE OF MILITARY IN POLICTICS.) NGAI WAS OUTSPOKENLY INDEPENDENT IN ASSEMBLY, AND DURING PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN. HE WAS CAMPAIGN MANAGER FOR THE RDV PARTY, DEVOTING MOST OF HIS TIME TO HA THUC KY CMPAIGN RATHER THAN TO HIS OWN UPPER HOUSE RACE. SEE REF A.

G) TOA THAT UAN: RELIGION UNKNOWN, SEE REF A.

H) VO VAN TRUYEN: RELIGION UNKNOWN, HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION: AFTER SCHOOL WORKED IN POSTAL SERVICE SEVERAL

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YEARS BEFORE GOING INTO BUSINESS, ACTIVE IN ANTI-FRENCH RESISTANCE.

I) MAI TUC THIEP: BUDDHIST, SEE REF A.

J) NGUYEN VAN HAN: RELIGION UNKNOWN, NOTHING ADDITIONAL.

7. LIST 3)

A) HUYEN VAN CAO: CATHOLIC. ON NOV 1, 1963 CAO, THEN COMMANDER OF IV CORPS, WAS PREVENTED FROM COMING TO DIEM'S ASSISTANCE. THOUGH CAO LATER SUPPORTED MILITARY REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL, HE WAS PUT UNDER HOUSE ARREST

FOR BRIEF PERIOD AND THEREAFTER GIVEN SERIES OF UNIMPORTANT POSITIONS. THEN IN OCTOBER 1964 CAO WAS APPOINTED DEPUTY COMMANDER OF IV CORPS UNDER GEN NGUYEN VAN THIEU. IN JANUARY 1965 CAO WAS NAMED CHIEF OF THE MSS AND IN MARCH 1965 CONCURRENTLY DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR POLITIICAL WARFARE. IN SPRING 1966 CAO WAS APPOINTED I CORPS COMMANDER AND INSTRUCTED TO SUPPRESS THE STRUGGLE MOVEMENT. AS HE FAILED, HE WAS RETIRED FROM ARVN IN THE SUMMER OF 1966. SEE BR.

B) MRS NGUYEN PHUOC DAI: CATHOLIC, SUCCESSFUL ATTORNEY, FORMER CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF MME NGO DINH NHU, PROMINENT FEMINIST.

C) PHAM VAN BA: RELIGION UNKNOWN, NOTHING ADDITIONAL.

D) NGUYEN MANH BAO: CAO DAI, NOTHING ADDITIONAL.

E) LE TAU BUU: HOA HAO, RECEIVED ENGINEERING DEGREE IN FRANCE. SERVED IN ARVN FROM 1949 TILL 1957 WHEN HE WAS EXPELLED ON GRAFT CHARGES. IN DIRECTORATE OF INTFORMATION IN 1961.

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F) NGUYEN VAN CHUAN: BUDDHIST, SEE BR.

G) TRUONG TIEN DAT: V
THOLIC, SEE REF A.

H) HOANG THE PHIET: CATHOLIC, NOTHING ADDITIONAL.

I) TRAN CANH: RELIGION UNKNOWN, MEMBER OF KY BO FACTION OF VNQDD IN QUANG NAM.

J) VONG A SANG: RELIGION UNKNOWN, SEE REF A.

8. LIST 40
AGA) NGUYEN VAN HUYEN: CATHOLIC, PRACTICING LAW SINCE 1937, ACTIVE IN ANTI-DIEMIST PROGRESSIVE NATIONALIST MOVEMENT IN 1955. LEADER OF THE CHRISTIAN SOCIETY OF VIETNAM DURING DIEM ERA. SEE BR.

B) MAI VAN HAM: CATHOLIC, NOTHING ADDITIONAL.

C) TRAM HUU PHUONG: CATHOLI . ENGINEERING STUDENT IN FRANCE DURING WORLD WAR II: REMAINED IN FRANCE WORKING AS ENGINEER UNTIL 1954 WHEN HE RETURNED TO BECOME SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FINANCE IN DIEMS FIRST CABINET. APPOINTED GOVERNOR OF THE NATIONAL BANK IN 1956.

D) LE VAN THONG: CATHOLIC, NOTHING ADDITIONAL.

E) NGUYEN HUY CHIEU: CATHOLIC, NOTHING ADDITIONAL.
F) LAM HAP AKA LAM VAN HAP: CATHOLIC, NOTHING ADDITIIONAL.

G) LAM VAN ON: RELIGION UNKNOWN, NOTHING ADDITIIONAL.

H) VU MINH TRAN: CATHOLIC, NOTHING ADDITIIONAL.

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I) LE PHAT DAT: CATHOLIC, NOTHING ADDITIONAL.

J) NGUYEN TU BAN: RELIGION UNKNOWN, US EDUCATED.

9. EMBASSY WILL TRANSMIT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE. GP-3 BUNKER